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Personal Submission to An Bord Pleanála
Case Number: 324387 – Muingmore Wind Farm

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to formally object to the proposed Muingmore Wind Farm development.

As a lifelong resident of the area and a Senior Occupational Therapist, I have significant concerns regarding the potential long-term impact this development will have on the health, wellbeing and sustainability of our rural community.

The unique qualities of this landscape - its tranquillity, natural beauty, biodiversity and strong sense of place - are fundamental to everyday life for those of us who live here. These qualities support family life, farming, recreation, mental wellbeing, tourism and an increasingly important remote-working population. They are also central to why many young families and professionals, including healthcare workers, have chosen to return to the area in recent years.

From both a personal and professional perspective, I am concerned that the cumulative effects of industrial-scale turbines, including visual intrusion, turbine movement, aviation lighting, construction activity, operational noise and the uncertainty surrounding future mitigation measures, have not been fully considered in terms of their impact on people's daily lives. While these issues are assessed individually within the EIAR, residents will experience them collectively as part of their home environment for decades.

I am also concerned by inconsistencies within the application. The receiving landscape is repeatedly described as highly sensitive, tranquil and of exceptional scenic value, yet other assessments conclude that industrial noise and visual change will not result in significant effects. Likewise, Mayo County Council requested a wider 30 km assessment of tourism and landscape impacts, but this was not undertaken. These issues raise important questions as to whether the full extent of the development's impact on community wellbeing, rural regeneration and the local economy has been adequately assessed.

Occupational therapy recognises that health is influenced not only by physical factors but by the relationship between people, their environment and their ability to participate in meaningful daily occupations. I believe this proposal risks permanently altering an environment that currently supports physical health, mental wellbeing, social participation and community resilience.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that An Bord Pleanála refuse permission for the proposed development and give careful consideration to the cumulative impact it may have on the people who live, work and raise families in this unique part of North Mayo.

Yours faithfully,

Eva Cassidy